

Message Text

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54

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-05 SP-02

USIA-06 AID-05 NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04

OMB-01 CEA-01 OPIC-03 XMB-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /102 W

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P R 172030Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7384

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EPAP, ETRD, BR

SUBJ: BRAZILIAN PURCHASE OF IVORIAN AND MALAGASY COFFEE

(A) STATE 202257, (B) LONDON 12681

1. FONOFF OFFICIAL WITH COFFEE RESPONSIBILITIES (DAUSTER), WHEN INFORMED OF FINANCIAL TIMES REPORT (REF B), TOLD EMBOFF THAT THE INFORMATION ON THE ATTEMPTED MALAGASY PURCHASE, AND THE QUANTITY INVOLVED, SEEMED TO ACCORD WITH "INFORMAL UNDERSTANDINGS" THAT HAVE BEEN REACHED. HE SAID HE COULD NOT CONFIRM ANY PLANS FOR AN IVORY COAST PURCHASE, ALTHOUGH HE NOTED THAT DISCUSSIONS HAD TAKEN PLACE WITH THE IVORIANS AFTER THE ATTEMPTED ANGOLAN PURCHASE FAILED.

2. WEEKEND REPORT IN "O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO" QUOTED BENJAMIN

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BELINKI, PRESIDENT OF THE BRAZILIAN SOLUBLE COFFEE INDUSTRY

ASSOCIATION (ABICS) AS SAYING ON AUGUST 14 FOLLOWING HIS RETURN FROM A TWO WEEK TRIP TO AFRICA AND EUROPE:
"IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO BUY AFRICAN ROBUSTA FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY. THE STOCKS ARE VERY LOW AND ANY ACQUISITION BY BRAZIL OF COFFEE OF THAT ORIGIN WOULD PROVOKE AN EXPLOSION OF PRICES, WHICH INTERESTS NEITHER PRODUCERS OF SOLUBLE COFFEE NOR IMPORTERS." HE ALSO REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THE BRAZILIAN SOLUBLE INDUSTRY WILL NEED TO BE SUPPLIED WITH FOREIGN RAW MATERIAL IN THE NEEXT TWO OR THREE YEARS (ABOUT 500,000 SACKS) BECAUSE "BRAZILIAN STOCKS ARE LOW AND IMPENDING CROPS REDUCED".

3. ACCORDING TO THE STORY, BELINKI SAID THAT SUPPLIES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY IN AFRICA ARE ABOUT 2.3 MILLION SACKS, IN ADDITION TO THE STOCK OF 650,000 SACKS IN UGANDA, WHOSE POLITICAL SITUATION DOES NOT PERMIT ASSURANCE OF NORMALITY OF SUPPLY. ESTIMATES FOR AFRICAN COFFEE PRODUCTION IN 76/77 ARE ON THE ORDER OF 14 MILLION SACKS, BELINKI REPORTEDLY SAID.
CRIMMINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: IMPORTS, COFFEE, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BRASIL07220
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760315-1309
From: BRASILIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760848/aaaabpct.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <08 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRAZILIAN PURCHASE OF IVORIAN AND MALAGASY COFFEE (A) STATE 202257, (B) LONDON 12681
TAGS: EPAP, ETRD, BR, MA, IV
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006